

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed July 10, 2006, has been carefully considered. In response thereto, the present application has been amended in a manner which is believed to place it into condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding Office Action and issuance of a Notice of Allowance are respectfully solicited in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claim 24 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Raines*. "Anticipation requires the presence in a single prior art reference disclosure of each and every element of the claimed invention, *arranged as in the claim.*" *Lindemann Maschinenfabrik GMBH v. American Hoist and Derrick Company et al.*, 730 F.2d 1452, 1458, 221 U.S.P.Q. 481, 485 (Fed. Cir. 1984) (emphasis added). Thus, the mere fact that the applied reference teaches a certain feature which is also in the claims does not show anticipation.

Present claim 24 recites (a) taking quantitative pulse volume measurements at a plurality of positions on the patient's limbs; and (b) from the quantitative pulse volume measurements, detecting the peripheral vascular disease. That is, step (b) is performed from the measurements taken in step (a) at a plurality of positions on the patient's limbs.

The applied reference teaches a calibration technique. While there are cuffs for both the thigh and the calf, there is no teaching or suggestion that they are both used in the same diagnostic procedure. Instead, they could just as well have been provided for different procedures, e.g., taking measurements *either* on the thigh *or* on the calf. Accordingly, the

Applicant respectfully submits that the applied reference does not teach or suggest all elements of the claimed invention, arranged as in the claim.

Claim 25 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the patent to *Raines* in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,548,211 (*Marks*). Claim 26 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the patent to *Raines* '232 patent in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,149,587 (*Raines* '587). Claim 27 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the *Raines* '232 patent. Claim 27 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the patent to *Raines* '232 in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0043614 (*Huizenga*). The Applicants respectfully traverse all of those grounds of rejection, as none of the secondary references overcome the above-noted deficiencies of *Raines*.

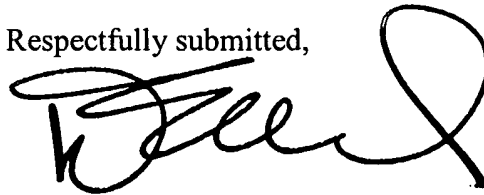
Finally, new claims 56 and 57 depart further from the applied references.

In light of the above, the Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Notice of such allowance is earnestly solicited.

If there remain any issues that can be overcome most easily through a telephonic interview, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Please charge any deficiency in fees, or credit any overpayment thereof, to BLANK ROME LLP, Deposit Account No. 23-2185 (117622-00102). If an extension of time is required to render this submission timely and either is not filed concurrently herewith or is insufficient to render this submission timely, the Applicants hereby petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for such an extension for as many months as are required to render this submission timely. Any fee due is authorized above.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Edmondson', written over a horizontal line.

David Edmondson
Registration No. 35,126

BLANK ROME LLP
Watergate 600, Suite 1100
600 New Hampshire Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037
Tel.: (202) 772-5800 (phone)
Fax: (202) 772-5858 (facsimile)